

REMARKS

In the Specification, paragraphs [0009] [0023] and [0037] have been amended to correct a typographical error with respect to the inclusion of a FIG. 17D. No such figure exists. It is respectfully submitted that the pending application is now believed to be in condition for immediate allowance and notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Other Documents:

Appended to this Preliminary Amendment is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and Form PTO-1449. The Supplemental IDS makes of record documents identified as defining the general state of the art of the subject application in a copending International Patent Application, Serial No. PCT/US03/26455. The present claims are believed patentable over these documents. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. To expedite prosecution of this application to allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney to discuss any issues relating to this application.

Respectfully submitted,
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